

Approved November 19, 2021

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE TRUSTEES

October 13, 2021
Public Session

**Final minutes can be found on the University of Wyoming Board of Trustees website at
www.uwyo.edu/trustees**

THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, October 13, 2021
Via Video Conference
Old Main Boardroom
Laramie, Wyoming

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Wednesday, October 13, 2021
Conference Call Meeting
Old Main Boardroom
Laramie, Wyoming**

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees held a conference call on Wednesday morning, October 13, 2021. Trustee Chairman Jeff Marsh called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London took roll.

Trustees participating: Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Elizabeth Greenwood, Brad LaCroix, Carol Linton, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan, and Dave True. Trustee John McKinley was excused from the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Ex-officio Trustees Participating: UW President Ed Seidel, ASUW President Hunter Swilling, and Director of Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell. State Superintendent for Public Instruction was not in attendance. Wyoming Department of Education Chief Policy Officer Kari Eakins attended on her behalf. Governor Mark Gordon was not in attendance. Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brandt attended on his behalf.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Modifications to UW Regulations, Brown/Evans

Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans discussed consideration of UW Regulation 9-1 (University Intellectual Property) as it was tabled at the UW Board of Trustees August 11, 2021, meeting to allow the committee to consider further modification in response to concern stated by Trustee Dave True related to the process of distribution of litigation costs.

Approval of modifications to UW Regulation 9-1 (University Intellectual Property)

Approved 10-13-2021 @ 8:52 a.m.

Trustee Kermit Brown moved the Board authorize modifications to UW Regulation 9-1 (University Intellectual Property) as presented. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous decision.

Approval of modifications to UW Regulation 2-200 (Student Classification for In-State and Non-Resident Tuition)

Approved 10-13-2021 @ 8:53 a.m.

Trustee Kermit Brown moved the Board authorize modifications to UW Regulation 2-200 (Student Classification for In-State and Non-Resident Tuition) as presented. Trustee Michelle Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous decision.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update: COVID-19, Seidel

President Ed Seidel provided update on the university's response to the COVID-19 pandemic stating the COVID-19 advisory committee continues to provide a weekly report. President Seidel reported on active case and sample prevalence in the community, stating that Albany County is in the "high" transmission level based on the Wyoming Department of Health classification system. President Seidel reported that vaccination rates are 75% for full-time benefitted employees, and 42% for students, and stated the university will continue to actively encourage vaccines. President Seidel reported that as part of Board action taken at its August 2021 meeting, the university has created COVID-19 educational videos that are part of a mandatory training course on the science of COVID-19. The Board previewed one of the six educational videos narrated by Director of UW Student Health Mary Beth Bender. Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans provided the Board guidance with regard to potential Board action on the current mask mandate stating the necessity of a motion. In response to inquiry from Trustee Dave True, and ASUW President Hunter Swilling, Chairman Jeff Marsh requested general counsel provide the Board a written summary of explanation of the legal advice on the matter.

Mask Policy

Approved 10-13-2021 @ 9:07 a.m.

Trustee Macey Moore moved to continue the current mask policy as is stated on page 8 of the updated Fall COVID-19 Plan. Trustee David Fall seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee John McKinley was absent from the vote.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Wyoming Innovation Partnership, Seidel/Farkas

In response to Board request for further information at its September 2021 meeting, President Ed Seidel provided summary background of the creation of the Wyoming Innovation Partnership (WIP) – a collaboration between the University of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges that enables the state's higher education community to strengthen and grow Wyoming economy

through innovation, advanced workforce training, research, and education. President Seidel reiterated that a request was submitted to Governor Mark Gordon in May 2021 for distribution of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in the amount of \$126M to support of WIP initiatives.

WIP Executive Director Steve Farkas discussed the President's Steering Group (PSG) of the WIP and its commitment to leveraging Wyoming's institutions of higher education to drive economic development statewide. Farkas provided additional detail related to WIP coordination at the University of Wyoming, and its organizational structure, and discussed the Year 1 proposal and its ~\$24M joint funding request to Governor Mark Gordon. Farkas reported that a designated account in the Office of Research and Economic Development will be used to receive all grants and funding related to the university's role in supporting WIP activities.

Wyoming Community College Commission Executive Director Sandy Caldwell provided comment on the community college efforts to stand up WIP. President Ed Seidel expressed his enthusiasm and support of WIP and its future outcomes.

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: Update: Program Review, Carman

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman provided the Board a high-level overview of the recommendations regarding program discontinuance, reorganization, consolidation, and reduction as outlined in his forthcoming report to President Seidel, with an intention toward safeguarding the details that will be identified later on in the process. Carman stated his preference to distribute his report to President Seidel, and an "at-a-glance" document outlining the restructuring of academic programs, to campus and the Board simultaneously following the October 13, 2021, meeting. Carman read from the preamble of his report, summarizing the program review process to date which prompted by the necessity of implementing \$13.6M in budget reductions for FY 2023, and a recognition that UW cannot continue to implement budget reductions while maintaining status quo in organization, degree offerings, and course delivery.

Carman stated that in accordance with University Regulation 2-13 (Academic Program Reorganization, Consolidation, Reduction and Discontinuance), the proposals were subjected to review and comment by: faculty, staff, student, and administrators currently affiliated with the colleges, departments, and the academic degree programs; other internal stakeholders, including Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, ASUW, Vice Provosts, and the President's Cabinet; and external stakeholders, including donors, alumni, advisory boards, and legislative committees.

Carman added that for the parts of the proposal focused upon discontinuance of degree programs, responsible departments provided reports and held listening sessions, and all feedback on these proposals was provided to Faculty Senate on September 17, 2021. Carman further stated that three university-wide town-hall meetings were held, including one specifically to discuss and receive feedback from faculty, staff, and administrators in the impacted units. Carman reported the online survey posted on the Academic Affairs website was open to the public and received 715 responses. Carman reported that Faculty Senate, including the Graduate Council and Academic Planning Committee, were asked to review and provided feedback on proposals for degree eliminations, and that he met with ASUW on August 24, 2021, and with the full Faculty Senate on September 13, 2021, to discuss the reorganization proposals.

Carman concluded stating that academic affairs plans to make recommendations to the president available to the UW community (including Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and ASUW) no later than October 15, 2021, further stating per University Regulation 2-13, submissions of final proposals to the Board of Trustees will occur on approximately November 1, 2021, for consideration and action at its November 17-19, 2021, meeting.

Trustee Michelle Sullivan requested the results of the survey inviting feedback on the Provost's recommendation be integrated into the final recommendations provided to the Board in November 2021. Chairman Jeff Marsh requested that best efforts be made to communicate with outside stakeholders, to receive their comment and feedback on the Provost's recommendations.

OTHER ACTION TAKEN AT MEETING:

Approval of Minutes

10-13-2021 @ 8:49 a.m.

Trustee David Fall moved the Board approve the September 15-17, 2021, UW Board of Trustees meeting minutes (executive and public session). Trustee Brad LaCroix seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous decision.

Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming State 4-H Foundation

Approved 10-13-2021 @ 9:10 a.m.

Trustee David Fall moved the Board authorize administration to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Wyoming and the Wyoming State 4-H Foundation. Trustee Carol Linton seconded the motion. The motion carried. Trustee John McKinley was absent from the vote.

Date of Next Meeting

November 17-19, 2021 (Laramie, Wyoming)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Executive Session Information

[The UW Board of Trustees met in Executive Session on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, in the Old Main Board room and via video conference.]

Executive Session

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

7:00 a.m.

Old Main Boardroom and video conference.

The University of Wyoming Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 7:03 a.m. Trustee Michelle Sullivan moved the Board to enter into Executive Session:

- 1) To consider or receive any information classified as confidential by law (16-4-405(a)(ix);
- 2) To consider acceptance of gifts, donations and bequests which the donor has requested in writing to be kept confidential (16-4-405(a)(viii)); and
- 3) To consider the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public employee and to consider accepting or tendering offers concerning wages, salaries,

benefits and terms of employment during all negotiations (16-4-405(a)(ii) and 16-4-405(a)(x))

The executive session was attended by the 12 voting members of the UW Board of Trustees, ex-officio members, and UW administrators and staff as appropriate. Trustee Carol Linton seconded the motion. The motion carried. The Board entered into executive session at 7:13 a.m.

Trustees participating: Brad Bonner, Kermit Brown, David Fall, Brad, LaCroix, Carol Linton, Jeff Marsh, John McKinley, Macey Moore, Laura Schmid-Pizzato, Michelle Sullivan and Dave True. Trustee Elizabeth Greenwood was not in attendance.

Ex-officio Trustees Participating: UW President Ed Seidel, ASUW President Hunter Swilling, and Director of Wyoming Community College Commission Sandy Caldwell. State Superintendent for Public Instruction was not in attendance. Wyoming Department of Education Chief Policy Officer Kari Eakins attended on her behalf. Governor Mark Gordon was not in attendance. Senior Policy Advisor Lachelle Brandt attended on his behalf.

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Kevin Carman, Vice President and General Counsel Tara Evans, Deputy General Counsel Paula Whaley attended the entirety of the meeting. UW Board of Trustees Deputy Secretary RoseMarie London, and IT Specialist Margarita attended as indicated in the executive session minutes. The following administrators were present during their respective topics:

- College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Dean Barbara Rasco
- Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ben Blalock
- Senior Vice President for Development John Stark
- Associate Vice President for Economic Development Steve Farkas
- Chief of Staff Mary Ivanoff
- Associate Vice President Communication and Marketing Chad Baldwin
- External individuals and outside counsel
 - Hal Corbett, Lonabaugh and Riggs
 - Bob Berger, Lonabaugh and Riggs

Respectfully submitted,



RoseMarie London
Deputy Secretary, UW Board of Trustees